

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 21, 2013

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2013–14 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 26

Introduced by Assembly Member Wilk

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Achadjian, Ammiano, Atkins, Bigelow, Bloom, Blumenfeld, Bocanegra, Bonta, Brown, Buchanan, Ian Calderon, Campos, Chau, Chávez, Chesbro, Conway, Cooley, Dahle, Daly, Dickinson, Donnelly, Fong, Fox, Frazier, Beth Gaines, Garcia, Gatto, Gomez, Gordon, Gorell, Gray, Grove, Hagman, Harkey, Roger Hernández, Holden, Jones, Jones-Sawyer, Levine, Linder, Logue, Maienschein, Mansoor, Medina, Melendez, Morrell, Mullin, Muratsuchi, Nazarian, Nestande, Pan, Patterson, Perea, John A. Pérez, V. Manuel Pérez, Quirk, Quirk-Silva, Rendon, Salas, Skinner, Stone, Ting, Torres, Wagner, Waldron, Weber, Williams, and Yamada)

February 26, 2013

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 26—Relative to Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 26, as amended, Wilk. Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month.

This measure would designate the month of March 2013 as Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, Colorectal cancer is the third leading cause of
- 2 cancer deaths in both men and women in California, with 14,115
- 3 new cases and 5,135 deaths expected in 2013; and

1 WHEREAS, Colorectal cancer is treatable, curable, and in many
2 cases, completely preventable; and

3 WHEREAS, When colorectal cancers are detected at an early
4 stage, survival is 94 percent; and

5 WHEREAS, There were approximately one million colorectal
6 cancer survivors in the United States in 2002; and

7 WHEREAS, Colorectal cancer is known as a silent killer because
8 symptoms only show up in the later stages of the disease; and

9 WHEREAS, With proper screening, colorectal cancer can be
10 prevented or, if found early, treated and cured; and

11 WHEREAS, In 2005, only 56 percent of the population in
12 California had received colorectal cancer screening according to
13 the guidelines; and

14 WHEREAS, According to the United States Preventative
15 Services Task Force, access to appropriate use of colorectal cancer
16 screening tests, such as colonoscopy, sigmoidoscopy, and fecal
17 occult blood test (FOBT)/fecal immunochemical test (FIT), could
18 reduce death rates of colon cancer up to 66 percent; and

19 WHEREAS, According to the American Cancer Society, in
20 2010, only about 43 percent of colorectal cancers were diagnosed
21 at an early, more treatable and curable stage; and

22 WHEREAS, The uninsured, underinsured, and underserved are
23 least likely to get screening for colorectal cancer, which means
24 they are more likely to be diagnosed at a late stage when chances
25 of survival drop to 13 percent; and

26 WHEREAS, Colorectal cancer screening is one of the most
27 cost-effective prevention measures in health care, more
28 cost-effective than breast or prostate cancer screening; and

29 WHEREAS, African Americans have the highest colorectal
30 cancer incidence and mortality rates of all racial groups in this
31 country; and

32 WHEREAS, In California, colorectal cancer is the most common
33 cancer among Korean men, the second most common cancer among
34 Hispanic and Japanese men, and the second most common cancer
35 among Chinese, Filipino, Hispanic, Japanese, Korean, Laotian,
36 South Asian, and Kampuchean women; and

37 WHEREAS, The California Colorectal Cancer Coalition (C4)
38 is a nonprofit organization established to increase colorectal cancer
39 screening rates in an effort to decrease mortality associated with
40 the disease, and implement strategies to reduce disparities in

1 colorectal cancer screening, diagnosis, and treatment among
2 underserved populations in California; and

3 WHEREAS, The California Colorectal Cancer Coalition (C4)
4 encourages Californians to discuss the colorectal cancer screening
5 test that is best for them with their doctors and believes that the
6 best test is the one you have done; now, therefore, be it

7 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
8 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature designates the months of
9 March 2013 as Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month; and be it
10 further

11 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
12 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.